

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a door having a bottom surface;

a pest control device comprising

a first member, which has a plurality of holes but is otherwise substantially solid;

a plurality of pins, each of which slides within one of the plurality of holes of the first member;

wherein the first member is fixed to the door so that each of the plurality of pins is substantially perpendicular to the bottom surface of the door;

wherein each of the plurality of pins can slide independently of each of the other pins of the plurality of pins; and

wherein each of the plurality of pins has an orientation that is substantially fixed and substantially parallel with respect to each of the other pins of the plurality of pins; and

wherein an uneven ground surface can cause one of the plurality of pins to be pushed upwards a greater distance than another of the plurality of pins.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1

wherein the first member has a first surface;

wherein each of the plurality of pins can be pushed up into the first member so that none of the plurality of pins protrudes out of the first member beyond the first surface.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein

the first member is fixed to a first plate which is fixed to the door.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein

the plurality of pins can move with respect to the first member without rotating with respect to the first member.

5. (withdrawn) An apparatus comprising

a pest control device comprising

a first member; and

a plurality of pins connected to the first member so that each of the plurality of pins can move with respect to the first member without rotating with respect to the first member;

and further comprising a device for raising or lowering the pest control device, wherein when the pest control device is raised or lowered, the first member is raised or lowered, respectively.

6. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein

the first member is a bracket.

7. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein

the first member has a plurality of holes and is otherwise substantially solid; and wherein each of the plurality of pins slides through one of the plurality of holes.

8. (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of

fixing a pest control device to a door having a bottom surface;

wherein the pest control device comprises

a first member, which has a plurality of holes but is otherwise substantially solid;
and a plurality of pins, each of which slides within one of the plurality of holes of
the first member; and
wherein the first member is fixed to the door so that each of the plurality of pins is
substantially perpendicular to the bottom surface of the door;
wherein each of the plurality of pins can slide independently of each of the other pins of
the plurality of pins;
wherein each of the plurality of pins has an orientation that is substantially fixed and
substantially parallel with respect to each of the other pins of the plurality of pins; and
wherein an uneven ground surface can cause one of the plurality of pins to be pushed
upwards a greater distance than another of the plurality of pins.

9. (original) The method of claim 8

wherein the first member has a first surface;
and wherein each of the plurality of pins can be pushed up into the first member so that
none of the plurality of pins protrudes out of the first member beyond the first surface.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein

the first member is fixed to a first bracket, which is fixed to the door.

11. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein

the plurality of pins can move with respect to the first member without rotating with
respect to the first member.

12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 8 wherein

the plurality of pins are connected to the first member so that each of the plurality of pins can move with respect to the first member without rotating with respect to the first member;

and further comprising raising or lowering the pest control device, wherein when the pest control device is raised or lowered, the first member is raised or lowered, respectively.